#### Polbeth Nursery School

#### Newsletter

#### March 2021

**We are so pleased to welcome you back to nursery! We would like to thank all our parents and carers for their patience during this difficult time as we have had to embrace new challenges and changes within the nursery!**

**Staff**

We would like to congratulate Miss Robertson on the arrival of her beautiful baby girl. As Miss Robertson is now on maternity leave, Miss Livingstone will be taking over Miss Robertson’s role as the - Equity Excellence Lead (EEL).

We would like to welcome Mrs Lind to the nursery, Mrs Lind will be overseeing Miss Livingstone’s key-children.

**Bubble groups**

The children are continuing to thrive in their bubble groups. . We are continuing to risk assess in order to ensure the nursery is as safe as possible.

 The children have continued to take ownership of their nursery areas and helped adapt their areas with resources they would like to use daily. The children will remain in the same areas as they were before the last lock down, This is to help children settle back into nursery with ease.

**Bubble 1: Full Day & 2s
Bubble 2: Am/Pm Children**

Staggered Starts

We currently have the staggered start and finish times. This is in place to reduce crowding at the nursery entrance/exit. We really appreciate your cooperation with this. Please contact a member of staff if you wish to change your time slot.

 **Dates for your Diary**

**Parental consultations:**

Thursday 18th March & Friday 19th March

**Mother’s Day:**

Sunday 14th March 2021 (Children will do crafts in nursery to take home)

**Easter Holidays:**

Friday 2nd April— Monday 5th April **(Nursery CLOSED)**

**Virtual Playroom**

We hope you have been enjoying the virtual playroom. We will continue to update this regularly along with the literacy playroom. Please keep an eye out for this. Word boost will be updated within the virtual playroom literacy room weekly.

We hope you are enjoying the playroom and would appreciate your feedback.

 **Virtual PEEP**

Miss Livingstone, Mrs Gray and Miss Kellagher have started a virtual PEEP group on the learning journals.

**If this is something you think you would be**

**interested in, please speak to a member of staff.**

 **Box Clever**

**Box Clever**an intervention that we are going to implement at Polbeth Nursery. With someSpeech and Language Therapists this intervention is to help our children develop their ability to form sentences and learn more words.

We do this by introducing themed boxes each month and embedding these words into the nursery. You can also help out at home by focusing on the monthly words. Keep your eye out for our themed words under the shutter.

**Word Boost**

Word Boost is an evidence-based intervention to help support vocabulary in children. It is an initiative to introduce new words to children and to develop their literacy skills. Each week the children will learn four ‘new’ words which have been taken from a pre-selected story. This initiative involves parents and staff, to work together supporting their child to reinforce these targeted words. Each week, a new set of words and story will be read accompanied with some activities. We would normally do this at nursery and send out a parent worksheet however due to the current pandemic, we cannot do this at nursery and therefore we thought we could send this out to you to do at home.

Parents can get involved by doing the activities and watching the pre-recorded video of the story with their child. Parents can then include these words into their home life and have fun learning these words. We will post the pre read story each week along with the four BOOST words and some activities to do at home. Keep an eye out each week on the learning journal for the word boost story! If you have any questions about word boost please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff on the phone or email.

This is an optional learning task to do at home with your child! It is a fun way to help your child learn new words. We would love to hear about your experiences and thoughts of the book and words each week!

**Home Learning Link**

Learning journals are used to document your child’s learning journey throughout their time at nursery. Parents are encouraged to post their child’s learning at home also. We will also be using the learning journals to post updates as well as posting home learning link tasks. We will begin by posting a variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering, maths) tasks for you to participate and enjoy doing at home with your child. We would love to see photos of you participating in these home learning tasks. You can share this with us by uploading a picture onto the learning journals. If you need help with this please speak to a member of staff or give us a call.

**Curriculum Corner**

The children will continue to explore emotions and develop friendships as they adapt to the new nursery bubble groups and areas.
We have been talking about our feelings and emotions, discussing what we feel and how we can express this. The children have enjoyed exploring the mood monsters at nursery which they have been learning and using through nursery sign in and games.

We will continue to promote child led learning and encourage all of our children to engage in their own ideas. We also encourage lots of risky play and creative play, which helps to develop children’s curiosity and inquiry. Please keep an eye on your child(ren)’s learners journey and the nursery blog for updates on what they are learning in nursery.

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**Illness**

Please ensure that if your child will not be attending nursery due to illness or any other reason to notify staff of their absence. If your child is ill, please do not allow them to come to nursery until they have fully recovered.

Knowing the signs and symptoms of Corona Virus

If your child develops any of the following symptoms:

High temperature

New continuous cough

Loss of (or change in) sense of smell or taste

Or who has had contact with a family/community member with symptoms

Then please do not send your child to nursery. Keep them at home and follow NHS guidelines, Test and Protect and Self-isolation.

If a child develops any of these symptoms while in Nursery, they will be isolated in a designated room with a member of staff, parents/emergency contact will be notified and arrangements will be made for the child to return home. Parents/carers will be advised to have their child tested. Information on Test and Protect procedures will be provided when the child is collected.

**Drop off/Pick up**

**Please do not enter/stand under the shutter area including the indoor foyer. The buzzer system is currently not in use if you arrive early/late or a member of staff is not present please call the nursery on 01506 872511. Please can we ask that parents/carers wear face coverings unless medically exempt**

One parent per child at drop off/pick up.

Clear markers are in place to indicate a safe 2m distance. Parents are asked to remain on the white marker when their child is called to enter the nursery.

If your child is not carrying their own bag into nursery – Please leave it on the blue table and a staff member will collect it

**A staff member form your child(ren)’s allocated bubble will come out at your allocated drop off/pick up time to collect your child. A staff member will then bring your child(ren) in/out. Please remain on a yellow marker during these times.**

Remember to find us on Facebook and check our blog for nursery updates:

 **Our learning blog: Like us on Facebook:**

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**If you have any questions, staff are always happy to help. Thank you for all your support and patience.**

The Nursery Team

**Outdoor Learning**

We promote a variety of outdoor learning opportunities at Polbeth nursery. We believe outdoor learning is very important for our children’s development. Children have daily access to our nursery garden whatever the weather! Children are encouraged to manage their own risks and loose parts play. As spring is approaching it can still be cold outside and therefore we ask if you can ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and ensure there is a change of clothes in their bag.

***Please remember to pack:***

Warm jackets

Waterproof clothing

Wellies

Change of clothes

Socks

**We like to go out in all weathers and love to get muddy! Please try and ensure your child’s clothes/shoes are labelled.**

**Parent Consultations**

As we are unable to have face to face parent consultations we have made the following alternative arrangements:

10 minute video call with your child’s Keyworker.

You will book a slot using the online parent consultation booking system (additional information regarding this will be sent out nearer the time)

**Thank you as always for your support during these challenging time.**

**Lost property**

**Due to the current climate we have been unable to have our normal lost property box. We will display a picture of lost property at the front entrance. If it has not been claimed after one month we will re-home the property and take the picture down. Please check this regularly to ensure your child(ren)’s property makes it home.**

Please can you ensure all your children’s clothing is clearly labelled with their name.

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**April Expansion 2021**

We will provide further information regarding the April expansion in due course. If you have any queries regarding sessions please contact pupil placement.

**Just a little reminder**

Just a gentle reminder to regularly check your child’s head for head lice

 **Cleaning**

Every effort has been made to limit the risk of infection and to ensure the highest level of cleanliness is maintained in and around the nursery.

The nursery will be cleaned each day and frequently touched areas, surfaces and toys will be cleaned at the end of each session and throughout. This will not impact your child’s learning experience.

**Please do not allow your child to bring in toys or other non-essential items into nursery.**